Nomination of Director on the Management of the Peerless and General Finance and Investment Company

841. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to nominate a Director on the Management of the Peerless and General Finance and Investment Company Limited in terms of section 408 of the Companies Act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Company Law Board have decided to appoint four directors on the Board of Directors of M/s Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited under section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956 for a period of three years.

Schemes to control the prices of essential drugs

842 SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new schemes have been formulated to control the prices of essential drugs and remove the scarcity of drugs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are being taken to increase the production of drugs in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R K JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Necessary mechanism has been provided in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 to control the prices of essential drugs. The Order was notified in the Gazette on 25th August, 1987 and copies thereof were laid on the Table of the House on 27th August, 1987. Measures for ensuring abundant availability of drugs are contained in "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Survey for Coal in Andhra Pradesh

843 SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India conducted a survey for coal in the Mulug Coal belt between Maneru river and Parsa in the Godavari Coal field in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Geological Survey of India (GSI) is engaged in regional exploration for coal in the Mulug coal belt of Andhra Pradesh. Exploration for coal has been completed in Bhopalpalli and Satrajpalli sectors during GSI field season 1985-86. Investigation is being carried out in Chelvai-Pasra, Lakshmidevipet sector A total reserve of 1588 55 million tonnes of coal of all categories has been estimated

Import/Export of Cement

844. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY : Will the Minister of INDUTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of Cement imported so far during 1987;

(b) whether Government propose to export cement; and

(c) if so, the quantum of cement likely to be exported during this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) : (a) In view of the easy availability of cement, no import has been authorised since the financial year 1986-87, except for certain special varieties of cement to meet specific demands from particular and users.

During the period from January-October 1987 the following quantities of cement were imported through State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., as per the particulars given below :—

1. Ordinary Grey Portland Cement	10,500 MTS (This was the balance out of a total import of 5·00 lakh tonnes authorised by the Govt. during 1985-86).
2. Rapid Hardening Portland Cement	270 MTs
3. Cement Fondu	35 MTs

(b) and (c) No decision has been taken to export cement on a regular basis. However, some cement companies are exploring the possibilities of exporting cement to neighbouring countries. Proposals for export of 2 85 lakh MTs. of cement to Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal have been cleared However, exports have not materialised because of wide gap between international and domestic prices.

Drug production from different stages

845 SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of those drugs which are being produced in the country from different stages;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cost of production of the same drug will be different if produced from different stages; and

(c) if so, on what basis the average selling price will be fixed as provided in the price control order ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : (a) About 225 bulk drugs are being produced by about 250 units in the Organised Sector and over 200 units in the Small Scale Sector Several of these drugs such and its salts, Chloramphenicol. Frusemide, Prednisolone, Vitamin A, Diazepam, Doxycycline etc. are being produced from basic stage. Several drugs such as Analgin, Dexamethasone, Pyrazinamide, Ethambutol, Chloroquin, Amodiaquine etc are produced from intermediate/penultimate stage.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The weighted average price in respect of any bulk drug will be fixed taking into account the price fixed for different manufacturers in respect of that bulk drug irrespective of the stage.

Decontrol of Prices of Saridon, etc.

846 SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Saridon, Equagesic Tablets, Betadine, Burnol, Nebasulf, Agarol and Iodex have been price decontrolled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these medicines are being used by the common people; and

(c) what are the names of the major ingredients in each medicine ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) To the extent information is available, the composition of the products referred to in the question is given in the enclosed Statement (*see* below). Betadine, Burnol, Agarol and Iodex are price decontrolled and Saridon Equagesic and Nebasulf are price controlled as per provisions of DPCO,